



TAIPEI EUROPEAN SCHOOL

台北歐洲學校

EUROPEAN SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWSLETTER

Edition 5.0 Friday 2nd November 2012

From the Deputy Head of British Secondary and High School Section

Dear Parents,

The final leg of the Autumn Term is underway with a packed calendar for our Secondary and High School students. The mood at the Secondary campus will become decidedly Christmassy as our Christmas tree will be erected in the Phase 2 Atrium with the Christmas Bazaar following on November 24th. Many thanks in advance for contributions made by students, their parents and teachers in marking these important events in our calendar. Other key dates for your diary include 'Values Day' on December 6th which will challenge our KS3 students to 'Value Your Voice' whilst our H1s need to remember this is also the deadline for organizing their work experience placements.

Whilst we look forward to the planned festivities this and next month, October certainly wasn't without cause for celebration! Spooks, ghouls and monsters abounded this Wednesday when we celebrated Halloween. The non-uniform day was a great success with many students yet again showcasing their creative talents in their fancy dress costumes. The day was organized by our Student Council and the competition for best dressed judged by them. Staff led the way with Mr Elkins in disguise as a pirate, Mrs Dale as a witch and Mr Laing turned zombie for the day. I am sure this will become a permanent fixture on the British Section and High School calendar.



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Deutsche Sektion



British Section



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Other fantastic events that have been keeping students and staff busy this term feature the Model United Nations team meeting with the Ambassador of El Salvador, our Chinese Drummers performing at the Grand Hyatt to honour the 25th Anniversary of the Community Centre, not to mention the ongoing performances of our students in the Drama Department.

I hope that parents found the High School Parent Teacher interviews last week useful and informative. If you were unable to attend but wish to receive an update on your child's progress please do not hesitate to contact their teacher or relevant Head of Department by email.

You will by now have received our new look reports for High School students which have been redesigned by our hard working Reporting Committee. We have taken into account the best models of academic target setting and current thinking on Assessment for Learning to restructure these important documents. Students now have a copy of their reports in their student diaries and their teachers will be revisiting their targets in lessons in the coming week. Please take this opportunity to have a conversation with your child about their progress in achieving these targets to support the work we are doing in school.

A reminder that on November 12th the school will be closed for staff training. Michael Pohl will be our visiting educationalist for the entire week to run follow up sessions with our teachers at the Primary and Secondary campus. Michael's focus with our staff will be on the development of our students' thinking skills. You can see how our Chinese Department has been using some of these strategies with De Bono's hats in this newsletter.

**Warm Regards,
Chrysta Garnett
Deputy Headteacher**

Model United Nations

The High school Model United Nations team is preparing for the THIMUN Singapore conference in November. Some of the students will represent El Salvador which maintains diplomatic ties with Taiwan. This means that they will have to behave exactly like diplomats from this Central American nation. For MUN delegates, there is no better training than meeting real diplomats. On Thursday 4th of October, these students and I were honored to meet with two diplomats of the Embassy of El Salvador. Kelvin Hsu (H3) showed excellent leadership skills by arranging the visit with the Embassy personal. Thanks to his work, six students were able to meet with Her Excellency Marta Chang de Tsien, Ambassador of El Salvador and Mr Jaime José López Badía, counselor. The visit was actually a real working session. Students had extensively researched about El Salvador's policies and they prepared questions. They benefitted greatly from the discussion since they need to tackle world issues and write draft resolutions which embrace and protect El Salvador's interests. Interacting with such high profile personalities allowed them to develop valuable professional skills. It was certainly interesting, and somewhat surreal, to listen to Vernon Lin (H3), who will be the Ambassador of El Salvador at the conference being coached by a real Ambassador. Above all, we were extremely grateful to Mrs Chang de Tsien and Mr López Badía to accept to spend time with us and to welcome us at the Embassy. It was an exciting and memorable field trip for these MUN delegates.

Fabrice Laureti
MUN coordinator

El Salvador, a great friend to Taiwan, a great friend to TES.



Kevin Ma, Annie Wong, François Ly, Vernon Lin, Henry Chen and Kelvin Hsu are seen during the meeting at the Embassy of El Salvador.

Year 7 Drama: Silent Movies



Whilst the Year 7s pictured seem to be having far too much fun for a Monday morning and indeed do not seem to be demonstrating any of the pre-requisites for work on *silent* movies, the reality of their 'opener' to silent movies this week in drama was that they took to it very well indeed. After some nostalgic clips from Chaplin's 'City Lights' (the famous flower scene) they proceeded to mime some very interesting objects and were clear enough to be able to guess most of them. The scheme of work they

are undertaking which involves much work on physical theatre as well as no small amount of comic skill and inventiveness to boot, is very topical at the moment. If you have not yet seen 'The Artist' dir: Michael Hazanavicius then you must get to the cinema quick. The film is a loving homage to the silent films of yesteryear as well as updating and commenting on the role that silence plays in our lives. These Year 7's who don't always have a reputation for being quiet, are starting to appreciate the value of this often neglected commodity and will continue no doubt to explore this subject with zeal. The rest, as they say, is silence.

H1 Drama Performance

The H1 Drama class made their first public appearance on Wednesday 24 October. The IGCSE curriculum requires the students to use performances as a means of both assessment and to demonstrate their understanding of theatre for an audience. The plays in this first performance were all devised by the students and explored the theme of 'an Issue of Conscience'. The students used a mixture of humour and tragedy to express the feelings of various characters who were exploring the issues of stealing, smoking and euthanasia.

The students are to be congratulated for producing an excellent performance on the night by demonstrating their understanding of their characters and the central issues of each play. The plays were certainly well received and took the audience on a rollercoaster ride of emotions throughout the evening.

H1 Drama would like to thank the audience for their support and attendance on the night and look forward to seeing more people at their next performance on Wednesday 9 May.

IB Students Enjoy a Chinese Poem through Six Thinking Hats

H3 Chinese Literature students were experiencing the magic of De Bono's Six Thinking Hats recently while they were working on modern Chinese poetry.

Students were encouraged to interpret the poem through multiple intelligences like music and painting, followed by their individual commentary based on the thinking criteria of the hats they were wearing.



Students and the teacher observer all considered this learning experience creative and enjoyable.

Flora Sung
Head of Chinese Language and Culture



History and Remembrance in Taiwan

The Taiwan POW Camps Memorial Society, with the assistance of the New Zealand Industry and Commerce Office in Taipei, is holding the annual Remembrance Day event on Sunday November 11th on the site of the former prisoner of war camp in the POW Memorial Park in Jinguashi. The Director of POW camps Taiwan Mr Michael Hurst M.B.E is a good friend of TES, having given informative talks at the school and acted as a guide for our secondary students when they have visited the former POW camp in Jinguashi. The service will begin at 11:00 am. The community is invited to go and have a look at the beautiful POW Memorial Park including the 56 foot memorial wall and POW sculpture, and join in paying respect to the veterans of all wars who have given so much for our freedom.

Also, on Monday November 12th our Society and the ROC Ministry of Defense will hold the dedication ceremony for the new Karenko POW Camp Memorial on the site of the Military Police Base in Hualien at 2:00 pm. Friends and supporters are also invited to this event.

For further details and info on these events, please check the Taiwan POW Camps Society's website home page at www.powtaiwan.org.

TES Chinese Drummers Performing at Grand Hyatt

TES Chinese Drumming Band was performing at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on September 28 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Community Center. Students were performing exceptionally well and impressive not only on their drumming skills but also by their team spirits. Dr. Weston was performing the gong as the prelude of the Chinese drumming on that evening too. The adorable Chinese drummers are students from H4: Julia Chang, James Hsu, Jessica Chiang, Stephanie Lu and Cecilia Chang; H2 Jolie Ting, Lesley Wang, Stephanie Kao, H1 Morris Chen, Konard Wang, Y9 Muneyoshi Ueda, Y8 Christina Ku and Y7 Brian Wu.





Flora Sung
Head of Chinese Language and Culture

From the Assistant Head (High School)

It was lovely to see so many parents at the High School Parent-Teacher meetings last week. Regular communication between home and school is an essential element of student success as these conversations do inform teaching and learning. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend. If you were not able to attend the meetings but would like an opportunity to speak to your child's teachers please feel free to contact them via email or through the High School Office.

Yesterday in PHSCE High School students were given copies of their October Progress Reports. Over the next week teachers will use lesson time to review targets with students through dynamic and collaborative reflection activities. Academic targets are intended to help students raise their level of attainment and it is important that they are the focus of learning conversations at school and at home.

A reminder that Andy Fletcher, will visit TES next week. Andy will be very busy over the course of his two day visit. On Tuesday he will hold a talk for parents titled Third Culture Kids: Raising Children in an International Setting. This talk will take place at the EPC from 1:40pm to 2:40pm. (Thank you to the 50+ parents who have confirmed their attendance). On Wednesday Andy will work with students to explore TOK issues in the Sciences and he will also meet with the TOK team to review aspects of the TOK programme at TES. We look forward to seeing Andy again and we'll report on his visit in the next Newsletter.

Note: Parents who are interested in attending Andy's talk on Tuesday can RSVP by emailing Sean Kenny (TOK Subject Leader), at: sean.kenny@tes.tp.edu.tw

Sonya Papps
Assistant Head – High School

PSHCE in H1

Mr Bean has recently set the ball rolling with H1 students to start planning their Work Experience placement in January. We look forward to hearing of the students' progress with this at the end of the month when we revisit the topic of Careers Education for the last few weeks of this term. In the meantime, students will spend the rest of November in PSHCE studying Sex and Relationships Education. It is our responsibility to ensure that students are equipped with the knowledge necessary for them to understand their physical and emotional development and make informed decisions about their life choices. Parents of H1 students should refer to letter they received last week from Mr Winter to find out more about this topic.

PSHCE in H2

Students are now venturing on the exciting and controversial topic of Human Rights. This unit aims to increase students' awareness of global issues, consider the aims and complications of political systems and innovations (e.g. the United Nations, national governments' variations in democratic provision) and elevate their debating skills through some challenging social and moral dilemmas in the weeks that lie ahead.

Target Setting in IGCSE

Students are now in the fortunate position, having seen their Progress Reports and discussing these with subject teachers and parents, to have clear academic targets to follow in each subject. These are clear personalized guides on the specific area that requires their attention for maximizing their achievements in each course by the next reporting phase. Students will experience encouraging reinforcement of this target-setting process from pastoral staff as well as subject specific opportunities in lessons to review their targets and discuss and implement strategies to achieve them. We are looking forward to students being reflective and open-minded in this exciting and rapidly developing process.

Gavin Winter
Head of H1 and H2



Students have been busy, as ever, with their IB studies over the past two weeks. H3 students are now settled into their courses and have already received detailed feedback from teachers on their progress. Over the coming week, they will be discussing the targets they have been set in their Progress Reports with fellow students and their teachers. In their PSHCE/Core lesson this week, they were introduced to the Extended Essay and shown how to access some

really useful and valuable resources online, using JSTOR and the EBSCO Host databases of academic journals and articles.

H4 students, who are also thinking about targets in advance of the mock examinations (which take place in January 2013) are approaching a calendar hotspot, with Chinese A Individual Oral Commentaries taking place at the beginning of next week and their being issued with Mathematics (HL and SL) portfolio tasks on Friday 9th November, which they have to work on over the following ten days. Business and Management students also have their Internal Assessment tasks to begin next week as well. It is well-known how demanding the IB course is, but please do let us know if we can help students who are finding it stressful. Just send me an email and we can see how we can be of assistance.

A real highlight of the TES calendar – our main Tabitha Cambodia fundraiser took place on Friday 19th October. Below, Vernon Lin (H3), a member of the *IB Productions* group, offers his reflections on this wonderful evening.

Darren Latchford
IB Co-ordinator

Tabitha Cambodia Fundraiser: *TES Stars*

On the night of October 5th, the Phase 2 Atrium of the Taipei European School Secondary Campus was transformed into a stage that showcased the talent, hard work and dedication of our secondary school students. It was the annual *TES Stars* competition organized by the H3 Tabitha team, a competition in which Taipei European School's own students were given an opportunity to display their diverse talents, be it through dancing or singing. The students were each assessed on their performance by three judges who decided who the top three performers were after the last act had performed. With a grand prize of NT\$5000, the stakes were high, and many students worked tirelessly to hone their acts in the hope of earning the reward, and it was generally agreed that all the acts were extremely entertaining.

The show was as spectacular as in previous years, if not even more so. A few of you, however, might have noticed that *TES Stars* was known as *Pop Idol* in the years prior to 2012. The reason for the name change was that the H3 Tabitha team realized that the annual event had become so popular that it was felt that it would raise the profile of TES if it reflected the school in its title. Indeed, the name proved its purpose as over 200 tickets were sold, making it a full house on the night.

As the audience watched the show, they were taken on a journey. The students delivered such wonderful acts including locking and popping to upbeat music, moving passionately to energetic rock songs, and serenading us with calming songs accompanied by soothing guitar playing. The audience experienced heaven and hell: while some songs told of the sweetest love and most romantic sentiments, other songs conveyed heartbreak and deep sorrow. As Mr Labuschagne, one of the toughest judges, noted after hearing a particularly heart wrenching song, "Wow, I never really realized how many sad kids there were in TES. Well done - that was really moving." This shows how the students of TES are so devoted and good at what they do, as they have the ability to connect with the audience somehow through dance or song. After a wide array of brilliant performances, the top three performers were chosen. After

some difficult decision making, the judges decided that third place would be shared by a band called “Those 4 Guys”, and Melody Cho’s (H2) band. Second place went to Cavin Fang (Year 7) who performed an amazing dance piece, and first place went to the band “No Direction” comprised of H3 and H4 students.



After a wonderful night of performances, the reason for holding the event must not be forgotten. The money earned from selling the *TES Stars* Tickets and snacks on the night will all go to the Tabitha Cambodia project. As Mr. Labuschagne, the supervisor of the project, mentioned to the audience on the day, the funds from the night are already enough to build two houses for people living in poverty in Cambodia. By attending the night, friends and family of the TES Community have already helped sixteen needy people. This is an inspiring thought as the success of the night shows how helping others can be so enjoyable and rewarding at the same time.



The overwhelming success of the night would not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of the H3 Tabitha team, who needed to find free time outside of the school day to work on this project. The H3 Tabitha team truly deserved the huge round of applause given

at the end of the night. In addition, the H3 Team would like to thank the Parents Association for helping out on the night, Mr. Papps and Mr. Labuschagne for helping to set up the stage and lighting, the judges, and any other member of staff who devoted their time and support to making *TES Stars* a truly magnificent spectacle.

UCC Update

H1 Work Experience 2013: This week letters to parents/guardians and information forms have been distributed to the H1 students. The deadline for gaining a placement is December 6th. This year we have 85 able-bodied students willing to carry out unpaid work for 5 days to experience the realities of the adult world, and even perhaps discover a possible career path. We welcome any offers of work placements from the TES community. Please contact the school at ucc@tes.tp.edu.tw. The Work Experience week is 14th-18th January, 2013.

TES Mini-fair: High school students can benefit from our annual university mini-fair on Friday 9th November 2012, in the Phase 2 multi-purpose room. A record 32 institutions from the UK and Europe will be on hand to give advice from 9.00 till 11.00. Parents are also welcome to attend.

News from the UK and Europe:

Russell Group – advice on choosing post-16 subjects

The **Russell Group** of universities has produced a short video for students making A level, IB or equivalent subject choices.

To see the video go to: <http://youtu.be/54kKLOkoFzk>.

The original guide is available to download from:

<http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/media/informed-choices/InformedChoices-latest.pdf>

Positive student reviews of HE websites

Both the revised **Unistats** website and the new **Which?** university website have been praised by students for support in choosing UK universities. They are:

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk> and <http://university.which.co.uk>

Higher education in the happiest nation – Denmark

Reasons to study in Denmark include:

- University tuition is free for students who are citizens of EU/EEA regions
- Many EU-accredited degree courses are taught wholly in English
- Denmark is rated as the happiest nation on earth

To find out more about studying in Denmark, go to: <http://studyindenmark.dk/study-in-denmark/study-options> and www.ug.dk/programmes.aspx. To find out why Danes are the happiest nation, go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTGKUwMegZ4

From the Assistant Head (Key Stage 3)

The 'Spirit' of TES

It was fantastic to see so many students and staff really embrace the Student Council Halloween day on Wednesday. There was such a buzz around school as zombies, witches, ninjas, clowns and superheroes roamed the corridors. The time before registration was so entertaining as students tried to discover the faces behind the masks and costumes. It was wonderful that so many students chose to involve themselves in the day and they got so much out of it.

The Student Council need to be congratulated for their efforts in making this day happen. They advertised it extremely well and also set clear boundaries regarding the dress code that all students followed, this is a testament to the organization as well as to the tremendous student body we have here at TES. The whole school came together at 1.20pm for the costume judging competition with awards for scariest male and female, most creative, cutest and tackiest costumes.

Well done to the Student Council and everyone who got involved. Here are some pictures from the day.





Christmas Bazaar – KS3 Student Support

The TES Christmas Bazaar is fast approaching (Saturday 24th November). This is a date that should be in everyone's diary as it is such a fantastic day. Key Stage 3 students need to keep this day free as they will be asked to assist in the organization and running of a House Stall at the event. Each of the four houses run activities on the day to raise money and it is very important that students are able to volunteer some time on the day.

The house stalls help to raise a lot of money however their success is reliant on student support. Please try to make sure all students are free on that day to offer support and also to attend the event and enjoy all that there is on offer. It is such a positive and enjoyable day for the whole TES community.

Gardening Challenge to Year 7's

The Year 7's spent Thursday afternoon working extremely hard on their Service Project gardens. A tremendous amount of effort went into turning and preparing the soil and planting the vegetables.

You may not know this but in 2005 I took a year off teaching and worked on the family farm in Ontario, Canada planting, growing and harvesting soy beans, corn and wheat. It was an amazing experience for me and it really made me appreciate the complexities and difficulties of growing crops. With this experience and knowledge myself and Mr Imbleau have prepared a staff garden. The challenge is to see if any Year 7 teams can produce a greater yield than the staff. The Year 7's were definitely inspired to take up this challenge and show that they can have more success than the staff.

We will keep you informed of the progress but need to assure you that these crops will be organic and no chemical fertilizers will be used to aid growth!

'Values Day' Poster Competition

'Value Your Voice' is the title and theme for 'TES Values Day' (formerly called IDT) which will take place on Thursday December 6th. The Pastoral Team is working very hard to finalise the programme for this day and they are extremely excited with the way the plan is coming together.

Next Tuesday a poster competition will be launched in KS3 and High School. Students will be asked to design an advertising poster for this event which will be used around school. If you know your child has design skills or an artistic flair please encourage them to participate in this competition. House Points will be awarded to the two winners (1 KS3 student and 1 High School Student).

Students do not have to wait for the official launch date for this competition so can start designing their **'Value Your Voice'** poster this weekend! Good luck to all KS3 students and the Pastoral Team look forward to seeing and judging all the entries.

Good Luck to the Parents and Staff

Many Key Stage 3 students have informed me that their parents are involved in Athletic events this weekend. The Ironman 70.3 takes place in Kenting on Saturday as well as the Taroko Half Marathon in Hualien. I would like to wish all of the brave athletes the best of luck in these two events and look forward to hearing of some great results. It is fantastic to have so many parents and staff being such positive role models to our students.

James Woodall
Assistant Head KS3

Participation in School Houses

On October 31st, Year 7s had a wonderful opportunity to participate in their Halloween school house competition. Students were asked, but not required, to wear a costume to school on Wednesday to help enhance their sense of pride in their TES House and foster a positive school culture amongst each other. House competitions on the Secondary Campus allows students of all Years to get the opportunity to meet schoolmates both younger and older which in turn can promote a strong school unity.

On this very spooky Halloween Day, zombies roamed the corridors and witches careened around the corners of the cafeterias while I-Points were handed out to students participating in the 'Costume Contest.' We all had a real sense of camaraderie on this Student Council led event and even though students cheered for their own House to win the competition, it didn't seem to really matter who won as everyone had so much fun being a part of something really cool and student led. Events like these will help cultivate leadership skills among the Year 7s as they contribute and involve themselves in school events and someday soon might be running for School Council themselves.

One thing that I love and appreciate about our school is that it is a place where a wonderful range of world languages, cultures and traditions intersect on a daily basis. During break times and between lessons, the hallways become a global meeting place awash with conversations in different languages; Finnish, German, Mandarin, English, Year 7ish just to name a few! This is where many ideas, thoughts and opinions meet, merge and sometimes even collide within our school community.

Our school serves as a rich platform for our students to grow in understanding, tolerance and appreciation for our differences as well as to enjoy and celebrate how unique we are as individuals. Everyone in our community has something to bring to the table and to share in the teaching and learning that takes place at TES, which is another reason why TES is such a wonderful school.

Over the next three weeks the Year 8 cohort will be exploring the topic of diversity during PSHCE. The Year 8 PSHCE teachers and students will be exploring what diversity is, how to identify stereotypes and the importance of being aware of the influence of media in promoting stereotypes. The skills and knowledge learnt from this topic will certainly equip our young students as they prepare to live, study and work in diverse and global contexts.

I look forward to the myriad of thoughts ideas and opinions that the Year 8 students are going to bring with them into the PSHCE lessons over the next three weeks as we explore the topic of diversity together!

Mr Sing Key
Head of Year 8 and 9

It's Better to Talk

My counselling work with students is holistic, embracing the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects of our students' wellbeing and development in a challenging multicultural high school environment.

When sometimes there seems to be no way to change a difficult situation, I work to resource students to access their inner strengths through symbolic approaches, for example, by offering students stones to give them something to hold on to. Many of them have kept these stones with them as they have made their journey through school or the difficult times.

Parents can try this at home with their children, in the process of engaging, you explore their worlds and feelings. Healthy relationships and lives rest on the nurturing and healing of the spirit.

Jenny Hsu
Counsellor

Study Skills from the SEN Department

Overview

Good study skills are important to success in school. Effective study skills develop positive attitudes that are the key to successful work habits as an adult.

Parents should help children develop good study skills. Learning styles vary from child to child and children need to discover how they learn best and to work out a study system that fits their style, and use that system regularly.

Three Basic Principles to Enhance Study Skills

1. *Make doing homework a positive experience*
2. *Make homework a high priority.*
3. *Use homework to teach organization skills and improve learning skills.*

Make Doing Homework a Positive Experience

- Provide support and praise for homework completion: avoid criticism and anger.
- Make clear that you expect your children to complete homework well.
- Give children some choice in when, where, and how they complete homework assignments.
- Use homework preferences in developing a homework schedule. Some children prefer to complete the assignments they like least first, while others prefer to do their easier or favorite work first.
- If a child dislikes a subject, find ways to make it less frustrating. For example, set a goal of doing five math problems and then taking a stretch or listening briefly to music,
- Encourage your children to participate in study groups with friends. Research shows that children who form study groups perform better than children who always study alone.
- Encourage your child to have fun, such as eating a snack, calling friends, starting an activity, playing a computer game, or watching a favorite show when homework is finished.
- Never use homework as a punishment.

Make Homework a Priority

- Establish a study routine. Children should be in the habit of studying at the same time and in the same place each day.
- Also, consider the child's ability to concentrate at different times of the day. Ideally, the family should agree upon a study hour when the television and stereo are off, there are no phone calls, and the entire family studies, reads, or completes paperwork.

- Establish a place to study with good lighting and a table or desk. Few students can study effectively in front of the TV, and most need uninterrupted quiet.
- Have supplies/equipment on hand

-Use Homework to Teach Organization Skills

- Encourage your child to create a time management book, write all assignments into the book daily, and check them off when completed.
- Your child should also break down long-term assignments and projects into smaller parts, writing each part into the time management book.
- Many children also find it helpful to put other commitments into the book as well, including music lessons, sports, and jobs.
- Encourage your children to estimate how long it will take to complete each assignment and help them plan their schedule accordingly.
- Help your children learn to plan ahead. They should start working on major assignments or reviewing for major tests well ahead.
- Encourage your child to outline or "map" reading material for better understanding. To "map," a child places the main topic in the middle of a blank sheet of paper. He then draws a branch for each subheading, and places supporting details on smaller branches going out from the subheadings. This creates a visual aid that increases organization and comprehension.
- Help your child to see tests as an opportunity to "show off" what they have learned, rather than something to be feared.
- Have your child proofread and check for success or failure in answering the purpose of the assignment, legibility, neatness, spelling, complete sentences, and punctuation errors.
- Encourage your child to review class notes and add details, make corrections, and highlight the most important information.
- Encourage your child to space studying over several sessions instead of cramming the night before.
- Provide support and genuine praise for homework completion and good study habits.

Grace Kennedy
SENCO

Homesick for Chocolate Sprinkles - Daniëlle Beuker (B9.1RGR)

On Thursday 20th September 2012, I was in The Netherlands in a book store watching the official presentation of the book *Heimwee naar Hagelslag*, which is Dutch for 'Homesick for Chocolate Sprinkles'. This book was written by the Dutch journalist, Lotte Stegeman, who interviewed me for this book.

Interview

A few months ago I got an email from a man named Michiel, who works for a Dutch blog for children abroad. I wrote a few articles for them in year 7. He forwarded me an email from Lotte, asking me if I would be interested in being interviewed for a book she was working on. It was going to be about Dutch kids abroad, and what their life was like. I couldn't be happier at this point and immediately answered her that I would be very interested and asked how it would be done.

We ended up Skyping for more than an hour. In fact, it was probably at least 2 hours of story-telling. In the end, only parts of it were used in the 10 page chapter. 10 other kids were interviewed, all with different backgrounds. Some of them are currently living in The Netherlands, some of them are still abroad.

The Presentation

Just after the summer I got another email, this time from the publisher, Thille, inviting me to come to the official book presentation. It was to be held in Selexyz, a very popular bookstore in Amsterdam. I went with my grandparents, my cousin (who is interested in becoming a writer) and my mum. A few of the girls who were in the book read parts of their chapters.



The invitation

After a lot of speeches from a variety of different people involved with the book, free books were handed out to all the people involved. I got one of those books. My mum bought a copy for one of my friends, who just got out of the hospital after a surgery. Lotte handed out autographs, and of course I got one for my family and for my friend.



Lotte writing her get-well-soon wishes to my friend for her surgery

Dinner

The publisher had also invited us, Lotte and a few other people to have dinner with her. My mum and I sat at the table with Lotte, whilst my family had their own table. We ended up going to a Japanese restaurant, and it was a bit like going to one of the dumpling restaurants where you have different courses. No one had any idea on how to order though, but in the end it was a lot of fun.



Me being interviewed for a site at the presentation

Book Week

The book was purposely published before October, because of a special Dutch event. We have a 'book week', which this week took place when we had our mid-term break. Every year there's a different theme, and children in school spend the week reading and working around it. Last year it was 'superheroes' and this year it was 'hello world'. This means it was about different cultures around the world. The book fitted in perfectly, and was put on the list of 'books for schools to use'.



The books to be given out

After the presentation I still had a day or so left in The Netherlands. During this time I wrote a letter to my old primary school. It had all the information about the book and my email so the school could use the book for book week and ask me any questions they had. I received a few replies from class 4, equivalent to year 3, and an email from class 6, equivalent to year 5.

Culture Day

On Saturday October 20th, the Dutch school in Taiwan had an event organized concerning the Dutch book week. It was held at the lower campus. My teacher, Paul Warnants, had asked me to read parts of my chapter, so I willingly agreed.



Me reading to the Dutch school De Oranje Dumpling (the orange dumpling)

Finally...

I really enjoyed this experience and feel honored to have been part of the book. I hope other people get to have such an opportunity, and wish this book could be translated to English as it is really fun to read. I've already read the other chapters and there are some very interesting events and thoughts included, and it is just very enjoyable to see what other kids in similar situations as the people at this school think.

Thank you to Lotte Stegeman and Michiel for contacting me for this, and thank you to Mr Glasscott for giving me permission to attend the presentation. Also, thank you for all my other teachers for letting me catch up so easily.

-Daniëlle Beuker (B9.1RGR)

Staff Inset Monday November 12 (No School)

We would like to remind you that as stated on the school calendar there is a staff Inset day on Monday November 12th. School is cancelled for students on this day so students have a long weekend. Staff will be in school participating in a range of training activities.

Chess Fest at TES

I am pleased to announce that the Wen Lin Road campus will be hosting the '2012 Taiwan Team and Club Chess Championships' on Sunday, 9th December. This is a prestigious event, with some of the best players from around the country coming to TES to take part in the competition. Last year, 250 children and adults played in this competition and we are hoping for even more participants this year.

There are 6 different age ranges for the competition, which are as follows:

Kindergarten (players born before 1st September, 2006)

Primary School (players born between 31st August, 2000 and 1st September, 2006)

Junior High School (players born between 31st August, 1997 and 1st September, 2000)

High School (players born between 31st August, 1994 and 1st September, 1997)

University or College (players born between 31st August, 1994 and 1st September, 1990)

Open (for players of any age)

Any school in Taiwan can take part in the competition; however, schools can only enter a maximum of three teams in any one particular age range. The competition begins at 9:30am and will finish by around 5pm. There are 7 rounds of games for the Kindergarten and Primary School competitions and 5 rounds for all of the others. Each team should have 3 players; it is possible to have 4 players in a team, but only 3 players can represent one team in each round. The cost of entry for each team is NTD1,200; lots of prizes are available for teams who do well in the competition.

It would be great if TES could be well represented at the competition, so if you would like your child to take part, please let me know. Also, if you are a parent who would like to take part in the open category, feel free to contact me and I'll put you in touch with other chess-playing parents. Who knows, you could be a part of the winning team!



I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the ESC students and parents who took part in the chess challenge at the Autumn Festival. Tony Lee, who is the professional chess coach at the EPC, amazed participants and onlookers alike by playing up to 10 games simultaneously against members of the TES community and winning all of them. The 'last three players standing' in each round of games were given a prize; well done to those players who managed to survive so long!

Finally, for those of you who like a challenge, here's a chess problem for you to solve. It's white's turn; how can white checkmate his opponent in one move? I'm looking forward to receiving lots of correct answers!



Matthew Fagg
Year 5 class teacher and primary maths coordinator
matthew.fagg@tes.tp.edu.tw

From the Secondary and High School Library

Dear parents and students,

What is the best book you have ever read this year? What book would you recommend to your friend if they don't know what to read? Every reader has the desire of sharing after reading a great book. Now it is possible to share your thoughts and reflections of a book or read other students' opinions on our Library Catalogue Oliver!

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With the latest Book Review and Rating function on Oliver, students are encouraged to add book reviews, rate books and share their thoughts with other students online. Just log-in to Oliver and search for the book you want to rate. Follow the instruction on the screen and their reviews will be submitted to the librarian, easy! Students who participate in the Book Review and Rating activity will be given i-Point! Don't wait, rate a book now!

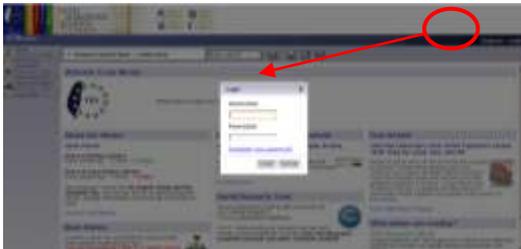
Happy Reading!

Angela Chang
Chief Librarian

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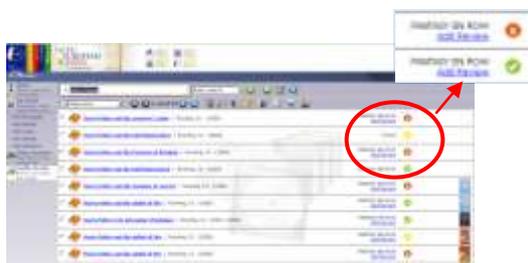
<http://library.tes.tp.edu.tw/oliver> log in with your own user name (computer log-in name) and password (default:1234, you can change it after log-in)



2. Perform a search, find the book you want to review



3. Click "add review" under "classification"



4. Click "write a review" button at the top of the screen



5. Write a review and Rate the book!



From the Head Of Sport

TEAMS Volleyball Tournament @TAS

The Year 8 and 9 teams played in the Annual TEAMS Volleyball Tournament, hosted by TAS on Saturday 20 October. We entered two teams in every division apart from the Year 8 girls who had just one team. Our teams unfortunately meet some tough competition in the early stages but a great day was had by all. The most successful team of the day was the Year 9 girls who got through to the Quarter Finals.



Year 8 – Coaches Miss Billante, Chi Wen, Joie de Vie, Ms Frost

Year 8 Boys: Taipei European School took two Year 8 Volleyball teams to the Taipei American School Volleyball Tournament on Saturday the 20th of October. Both teams had brilliant moments. TES 1 was behind by 12 points and made an amazing comeback in their second game of the match against MAK to take the lead 25 to 24, only to lose in a heartbreaker 25 to 27. However, in their next match against Kaoshiung American School they won handily in two games. In the second game, the score was 9 to 12 for KAS. Curtin Chen then served 16 wicked overhead serves in a row to lead his team to victory 25 to 12. TES 2 won their second match against Morrison Academy led by solid play from JunYoung Yoon and 10 serves in a row by Declan Tapsall. All the players made an impressive showing and got a taste of success which they hope to build upon for next year!



Photos by Tiffany Wang (H4)

Year 9 – coached by Chin Lin and Mr Morris

@ Morrison Academy Taichung

The Year 7 girls and boys teams travelled down to Taichung for their tournament. It was a fabulous day with a great atmosphere. The students learnt a lot and really improved as we went through the day.

We had a clean sweep against TAS but unfortunately we could not beat the might of the Morrison Academy's whose volleyball has always been very strong.



TISSA JVB Boys Football And Girls Volleyball Tournament

TISSA Football Champions!

On Friday 26th October the JVB Boys Football squad of 16 players went down to Kaoshiung for the TISSA JVB Football Tournament at MAK. We stayed at ISIS school for the night and woke up early on Saturday morning well-rested and ready for a day's football action.

The boys were up against the hosts MAK in their first game and were looking the part in the new football kit. Their football also looked good and they won 4-1 with a hat-trick from Jonas Huber. They had to wait for three hours before their next group game against GCA and spent the time supporting the JVB Girls Volleyball team. Needing a win to go through to the final, they started off a little nervously, before coming out easy winners 7-0, with goals from seven different players.

Morrison Academy Bethany were their opponents in the final and we were off to a great start with a fantastic strike by Axel Queau. Shortly afterwards, Bethany equalised and we went into half-time 1-1. The second half started well with a screaming goal from a free-kick from Jonas Huber. However, the ball somehow ricocheted into the back of our net after a goal-mouth melee and it ended up 2-2.

It was now time for the dreaded penalty shoot-out and both teams were feeling the pressure with two misses each in the first five kicks. Bethany missed their first sudden-death kick and it was up to Nicolai Spreter to smash the ball home and win it for the team. A fantastic team effort from all the boys!



The girl's volleyball team also travelled to Kaoshiung for the day.

Last Saturday, a squad of 10 H1 girls and their coaches made a very early morning trip down to the Morrison Academy Kaohsiung to play in the JVB Volleyball fixtures. The team were placed in Pool 1, including the hosts (and tournament favourites) MAK, a strong first-string squad from KAS – they sent two - and a team from ICA.

The first fixture took place in the gym at the 'Home of the Sharks'. Unfortunately, many of the TES ladies were suffering from nerves, so despite being fairly evenly matched, we lost the game 2 sets to 0. The second game was more successful, with some great volleyball being played. This was against the strongest team in the tournament and with a lot of home support evident, the TES girls gave a great account of themselves and narrowly lost their second fixture.

With only a short break between matches, there was time for a quick lunch and back out on to the practice courts before the final fixture of the day. This time, the team put in a convincing performance all round and won both of the first two games comprehensively to take the victory! So despite playing the eventual champions, and the 3rd placed team, the girls finished a respectable 5th out of eight (very strong) teams.

The coaches agreed that the player of the tournament for TES had been Marie-Josephine Blanc, who was awarded the 'Most Valued Player' medal.

Fixtures

U15 FOBISSEA boys basketball v TAPA



Our U15 FOBISSEA (JVB) squad had their first practice match against TAPA in preparation for our trip to Suzhou in November. To push our boys and to help them practice under pressure we played the TAPA JV A team. Therefore, the team was a lot older, taller and stronger, and in some cases there was a 3 year gap. The team lost by a commendable 20 points. Coach AJ was very pleased with the way our boys played and said that they learnt a lot.

HOUSES

GLEE:

The Houses have all started their GLEE practices ready for the big competition on the last day of Term 1.



Taipei European School 台北歐洲學校

Christmas Bazaar

耶誕園遊會



Saturday

Christmas Handicrafts
Raffle & Activities
Delicious International Food

24th November 10am to 4pm

Swire European Primary Campus

727 WenLin Road, ShihLin District (near ZhiShan MRT)

台北市士林區文林路727號

For more information please call 8145-9007 ext.1000. As parking is very limited we advise you to come by public transport or taxi.

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Part of the proceeds goes to charities to help and support the less fortunate children in Taiwan.